



Restoring the Housatonic River Watershed



Protecting Habitat

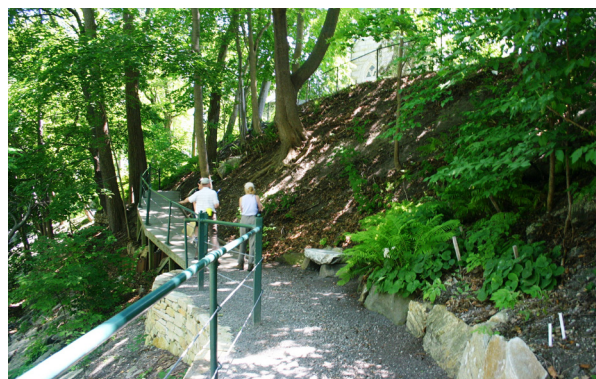
Working with numerous partners, the Trustees have protected hundreds of acres of wildlife habitat in MA and CT, primarily riparian floodplain forests and fields adjacent to the Housatonic and its tributaries. Many parcels are actively managed to reduce invasive species and restore native vegetation. Additional protection efforts are expected in both states in the next few years.



Vernal pools are protected on the 25-acre Indian Fields parcel in New Milford, CT.

Increasing Public Use

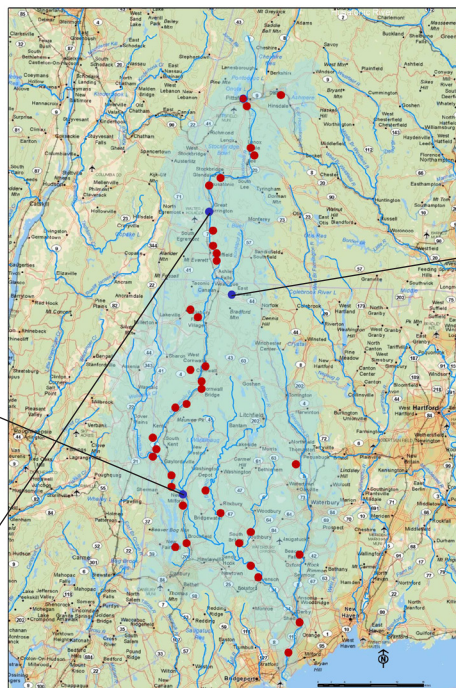
Numerous canoe launches, fishing platforms and walking trails will increase public access to the River and adjacent natural areas. These features promote public enjoyment and appreciation of the outdoors.



Housatonic River Walk, Great Barrington, MA.

History of the Housatonic NRDAR

Under the Natural Resource Damage Assessment and Restoration (NRDAR) provisions of the Superfund Act, the General Electric Company settled with Natural Resource Trustees (USFWS, NOAA, Massachusetts and Connecticut) for \$15 million in 1999 for historic releases of PCBs to the Housatonic. Funds are being used to restore injured natural resources at a variety of projects throughout the watershed.



Housatonic River Watershed with Project Locations

Project Types	Number of Projects		Expected Acres/Miles	
	CT	MA	CT	MA
Land Protection	6	1	300 ac	78 ac
Fisheries Restoration	8	4	11 mi	8 mi
Wetland Restoration/ Invasive Species Mngmt	6	3	523 ac	390 ac
Boat Launches	7	4		
Trails	8	2	4.5 mi	2 mi
MA also funded rare species inventories, educational programs and assistance to Towns for wetlands protection.				

Restoring Aquatic Resources

Funds are being used to remove several dams, repair existing fishways and enhance riparian buffers to improve cold water fisheries.



Removal (or breaching) of dams such as this one on the Blackberry River in North Canaan, CT, will restore resident fish populations.

Partnerships Make the Difference

Partners throughout the watershed implement restoration projects and bring additional funds and expertise to enhance and expand Trustee-funded efforts. We celebrate the efforts of everyone involved, including:

Berkshire Natural Resources Council
Berkshire Regional Planning Commission
Connecticut Audubon Society
Connecticut Bass Federation
Connecticut Department of Environmental Protection
Crane & Company, Inc.
ESS Group, Inc.
Flying Cloud Institute
Great Barrington Land Conservancy
Housatonic River Initiative
Housatonic Valley Association
Kampoosa Bog Stewardship Committee
Mass Division of Ecological Restoration
Mass Division of Fisheries & Wildlife
Massachusetts Audubon Society
Naromi Land Trust
Natural Resource Conservation Service
Northwest Conservation District
Project Native, Inc.
Schaghticoke Tribal Nation
Sheffield Land Trust
Simon's Rock College
Stantec
The Nature Conservancy
The Trustees of Reservations
Trout Unlimited
Valley Council of Governments
Webster Ingersoll

Massachusetts Cities and Towns:
Dalton
Great Barrington
Hinsdale
Lee
Lenox
Sheffield
Pittsfield

Connecticut Cities and Towns:
Beacon Falls
Harvinton
Kent
New Fairfield
New Milford
Newtown
Southbury

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